

## Message Text

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67

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66611

DRAFTED BY: D/PW:FASIEVERTS:CAF

APPROVED BY: D/PW:FASIEVERTS

S/S-O:PJOHNSON

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P 080259Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 107166

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT MANILA 5982 ACTION BANGKOK

INFO SECSTATE 7 MAY.

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 5982

EXDIS

FROM AMBASSADOR MARTIN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AEMR

SUBJECT: REMAINS OF DEAD SAIGON MARINE SECURITY GUARDS

1. TWO MEMBERS OF THE US EMBASSY MARINE SECURITY GUARD  
DETACHMENT WHO WERE AT THE TIME ON DUTY AT THE DAO  
COMPOUND AT TAN SON NHUT WERE KILLED AS A RESULT OF NORTH  
VIETNAMESE ROCKET AND ARTILLERY ATTACK AT ABOUT 0400 ON TUESDAY,  
APRIL 29. THE TWO MARINES ARE: LANCE CORPORAL DARWIN LEE  
JUDGE, SERIAL # 479 708999, AND CORPORAL CHARLES MCMAHON JR,  
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SERIAL # 023 421637.

2. IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORMAL US MISSION SAIGON PROCEDURES  
THE REMAINS OF THE TWO MARINES WERE FIRST TAKEN FROM THE DAO

COMPOUND TO THE NEARBY SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST HOSPITAL MORGUE. A TELEPHONIC INQUIRY MADE WITH THE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST HOSPITAL LATER THAT DAY PRODUCED THE RESPONSE BY A VIETNAMESE RECEPTIONIST THAT THE REMAINS HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM THE HOSPITAL MORGUE. HOWEVER, AT THAT TIME THERE WAS ALREADY A GREAT DEAL OF CONFUSION IN SAIGON AND IT WAS NO LONGER PHYSICALLY POSSIBLE FOR US PERSONNEL TO REACH THE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST HOSPITAL EITHER FROM THE DAO COMPOUND OR THE EMBASSY ITSELF. IN LIGHT OF THIS FACT AND SINCE INQUIRIES AT NEARBY MILITARY STATIONS RECEIVING EVACUATIONS FLIGHTS FAILED TO CONFIRM THAT THE REMAINS WERE IN FACT EVACUATED WE BELIEVE IT MORE LIKELY THAT THE INFORMATION RECEIVED BY TELEPHONE FROM THE HOSPITAL WAS IN ERROR.

3. WE BELIEVE MOST APPROPRIATE AND PRACTICAL WAY TO RESOLVE THE QUESTION IS TO ASK THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN SAIGON TO DETERMINE THE FACTS BY CHECKING WITH WHAT VIETNAMESE PERSONNEL REMAIN AT THE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST HOSPITAL AS WELL AS APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND THAT BEST WAY OF DOING SO IS THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS. SINCE THERE IS NO FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE IN MANILA REQUEST US DEFENSE ATTACHE BANGKOK APPROACH THE FRENCH DEFENSE ATTACHE AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY THERE AND ASK HIM TO INITIATE AN INQUIRY WITH THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN SAIGON. WE BELIEVE FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE REMAINS IN SAIGON AND WOULD BE PROPER CHANNEL FOR THIS PURPOSE.  
SULTIVAN UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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